Vol. 5, No. 7 **Population spikes in north Sedgwick County**



The Bel Aire

The heart of Bel Aire's land development is Central Park just south of 53rd North between Woodlawn and Rock Road. The development is divided into three phases — The Park, The Village and The Landing.

GROWINGTREND

Cities take advantage of location, small-town appeal

By Matt Heilman

The populations of Valley Center, Park City, Bel Aire and Kechi have jumped significantly since 2000, thanks in part to proximity to Wichita, construction of new housing developments, annexation and small-town appeal

While the U.S. Census Bureau finishes the headcount for the 2010 Census, new homes and busier streets in northern Sedgwick County support increased population estimates from April 1, 2000, to July 1, 2009. The figures were released last month.

For any community, the bottom line for pursuing growth is to increase valuation, making the property tax mill levy worth more.

Bel Aire's population increased by about 17 percent from 2000 to July 2009, from 5,836 residents to 6,873.

As has been well-documented, the increase hasn't been enough for the city to escape a neardevastating land debt. Bel Aire will celebrate its

30th anniversary in November. Mayor Harold Smith has been there the entire way, going back to his service on the city's first

"During that 30 years, we've grown as a city and I think we offer all of the services that is expected of a city," Smith said. "That sense of community is something we worked on for a long time."

Smith acknowledged that at one time, some residents of Bel Aire didn't realize they were part of the community. He said building a rec center, establishing Bel Aire's police department and hosting community events have helped Bel Aire residents better identify with their community.

He said the city was also better able to forge an identity as it expanded to the north and east, away from Wichita city limits. The expansion has left Bel Aire with space to fill.

Population explosion?

Growth from 2000 to 2009

Valley Center	4,883	6,638
Park City	5,814	8,029
Bel Aire	5,836	6,873
Kechi	1,038	1,796

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

"With so much land to sell, the city will be focused on growth for many years," Smith said. "That's going to be our top issue."

To have success handling the "top issue," Bel Aire is looking for a boost from two new USD 259 schools along Woodlawn and Rock Road near 53rd North, as well as a proposed industrial park between Webb and Greenwich Road on the east side of the city.

Smith said about 800 acres was recently rezoned from agricultural to industrial.

"We think as that builds, people will come," Smith said. "People like to live close to where they work. At least they'll be aware that we're here if they work out here."

Development seen in the Central Park community, which includes Bel Aire's City Hall, police department and senior center along 45th North between Woodlawn and Rock, is a good start for the city that has a lot of growth and development ahead of it.

Jackie Martinez moved to Central Park with her family four years ago from Haysville. She said the space between homes in Central Park is part of what drew her and her husband to buy a home in the housing community.

"This is one of the few areas where we could get a large lot," Martinez said. "That was kind of a big deal for us."

Martinez is also looking forward to the new

USD 259 schools opening near Central Park. Her third-grade son currently attends school at Chisholm Trail Elementary School in Park City.

She said having slight increases in the property tax mill levy hasn't been much of a problem to this point. Martinez said she liked being near the Bel Aire Police Department and having a county fire station within a couple of miles.

Smith said Bel Aire's current city council and staff have to be developers as they continue to fight an uphill battle against debt.

'We never wanted to be a developer, but we think we've pretty well figured out now what it's all about," Smith said.

Valley Center

In Valley Center, the population from 2000 to 2009 increased by about 36 percent, jumping from 4,883 residents in 2000 to an estimated 6,638 last year.

"I think the city is a desirable place to live," Valley Center Mayor Mike McNown said. "It has a nice community feel."

This "nice community" feel can be used in a marketing plan to recruit new residents by a lot of small towns. One significant boost for Valley Center's growth has been annexation efforts to the north, south and west of the city.

"The reasons people come here varies," McNown said. "It could be the school system, it could be just the feel of the community. Some people just don't want to live in a large city when they move here for jobs. Valley Center offers a great place to raise a family."

Lindsay and Kyle Hodges are two of the newer Valley Center residents. They have lived in their home in the Prairie Lakes addition in

See GROWTH, Page 2

City proposes tax hike for '11

By Matt Heilman

The Bel Aire City Council included a budget workshop in its regularly scheduled meeting July 20. By the end of the night, council members had the task of coming up with a maximum property tax

The council decided to publish a 4-mill increase, bringing the overall projected mill levy for 2011 to 39.97 mills from 35.97 in 2010. In Bel Aire, 1 mill brings about \$45,000 to the city.

Once the 4 mill increase was published, the council had a little bit of wiggle room that could result in a few cuts to lower the final mill levy another mill or two.

City Manager Ty Lasher and Mayor Harold Smith touched on the importance of the 2011 budget for 2012. In 2011, the interest payment on the city's land debt is \$685,767. After that, the payment balloons to \$1.3 million for the next 10 years, starting with 2012.

With this in mind, Smith recommended a 3-mill increase to the property tax for 2011, and raising 3 additional mills for 2012 and 2013.

Lasher discussed publishing a 10-mill increase. He knew there would likely be a backlash if the council actually approved that figure, but his point was to show citizens about what they could expect without cuts to city services.

Lasher, Smith and Assistant City Manager Matt Stiles have worked through the 2011 budget and cut it to the bone, Lasher said. There aren't many options left for

cuts without hitting city services, namely the Bel Aire rec center, police department and Sedgwick County fire service.

As of July 20, there wasn't a plan to cut police officers or eliminate the rec center or Sedgwick County fire service. However, the rec center and police department will likely take a hit to their operating budgets.

Two citizens spoke on behalf of the rec center. Resident James

See BUDGET, Page 5



Matt Heilman

Sedgwick County firefighters check the home of Dennis and Cheryl Mc-Callum for hot spots after it was destroyed in a July 1 fire.

Bel Aire couple recovering after fire

Likely caused by fireworks

By Matt Heilman

In the late morning hours of July 1, Cheryl McCallum stepped out on her porch at 4650 N. Hillcrest in Bel Aire to check on a pair of rugs that were hanging out to dry across the railing when she smelled something peculiar.

"I thought, 'That's funny, why would anybody be cooking out or burning?" Cheryl said. "I smelled, not strong smoke, but you know, just a whiff."

By the late afternoon of July 1, the whiff of smoke turned out to be the start of a fire that destroyed the McCallums' home. The likely cause was fireworks. Three weeks later, Dennis and Cheryl are trying to regroup in a temporary home, as they hope to someday rebuild on their Hillcrest property.

Cheryl had just gotten home from a 9:30 a.m. doctor's appointment on July 1. She didn't feel well and went to bed, not thinking much about the smoke smell, which wasn't noticeable inside the house.

About 12:30 p.m., Cheryl's husband, Dennis McCallum, who'd been working in his

See FIRE, Page 6

County pledges support for pavilions

Users say six years not enough

By Matt Heilman

Since a vote from Sedgwick County citizens approved the construction of the downtown Wichita Intrust Bank Arena in November of 2004, the future of the Kansas Coliseum has been questioned. While a final verdict on the coliseum's long-term future has yet to be cast, the Sedgwick County Commission moved forward with supporting the pavilions, which adjoin Britt Brown Arena.

At its June 30 meeting, the commission unanimously voted to keep the pavilions open through 2016. The commission also approved \$432,129 in upgrades to the pavilions and giving them a new name, "The Kansas Pavilions.'

The pavilions have not turned a profit in their three-decade history, and the commission is realistically hoping that upgrades will help them break even, or at least come close. Despite not having a clear financial advantage for the county, commission chairman Karl Peterjohn said the pavilions were important to the area.

See PAVILIONS, Page 2

Cities do well to control expenses

Cities in north Sedgwick County are making some difficult financial decisions.

Faced with relatively stagnant revenues, leaders are weighing wants against needs in crafting 2011 city budgets.

Sometimes, the line is very fine. Do we need smoother roads or do we merely want them?

We applaud the efforts of city council members in Valley Center, Park City, Kechi and Bel Aire. During this budgeting season, most have shown a willingness to work hard for their constituents, keeping in mind that tax increases in today's ailing economy should be avoided as much as possible.

At the same time, cities must balance that tax load with the increasing costs of city services. They must keep looking to the future, knowing that this economic recession will not last forever. It's difficult to do, but even with tight budgets, cities must continue moving forward with infrastructure repairs and improvements as well as basic city services that encourage growth as well as residential and commercial satisfaction.

In times like these, unless voters ask for additional taxes to fund community projects, we want city budget levels to be tied to the growth of their cities.

If the city grows, so does the amount of money it takes to provide services. That's a natural progression.

We are fortunate that cities in north Sedgwick County can boast growth in property valuation, even if it's modest and slowing consid-

In Valley Center, assessed valuation has risen from \$42.3 million to \$43.7 million. It's not much, to be sure. But it's going in the right direction. As a result, city leaders have proposed a budget that does not include a tax increase, even though spending would increase by about \$600,000. In our opinion, that's good budgeting.

In Park City, council members worked diligently to trim the 2011 budget to ultimately reflect a very minimal property tax increase of about a half a mill. The city's assessed valuation increased just slightly, from \$54.6 million to \$54.7 million.

Kechi's proposed budget actually has a slight decrease in property taxes. Its valuation increased only slightly as well, from \$15.42 million to \$15.48 million.

The situation in Bel Aire is unique. Saddled with land debt, the city is proposing an increase of 4 mills to cover its expenses and mortgage payments. City leaders had toyed with a bigger spike. But we are pleased they looked at areas to cut while still meeting its obligations. The city's valuation grew by about \$700,000.

Again, kudos to city leaders and staff for tightening their belts during this difficult time. Your constituents thank you.

— The Bel Aire Breeze

The Bel Aire Breeze

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Letter to the editor

Thanks, Bel Aire, for a fantastic Fourth

This Fourth of July in Bel Aire was one of the most fantastic times that I have had in a long time.

Carol Ignoto and I would like to thank everyone who helped us get the new Bel Aire fireworks ordinance passed. There were many individuals involved over a long period of time who helped with the effort and to try and thank everyone by name will only mean that someone will not get recognized.

We are grateful for the Bel Aire City Council and the mayor for allowing us to speak at several city council meetings. We want to thank the council members and the city staff who worked with us for almost a year, who listened to our concerns and recommendations, and then drew up a new fireworks ordinance for the city.

There were also many Bel Aire citizens who signed the petition recommending that fireworks be legalized in Bel Aire. These petitions were given to the council members to show that there was wide spread support for the ordinance change.

Our thanks to the staff at The Ark Valley News who published several of my editorials in the Bel Aire Breeze. They contained information about what we were doing so everyone would be informed and would know what they could do to help with the effort.

We are very grateful for the large number of Bel Aire citizens who took the time and effort to show up at one (or more) of the city council meetings to show their support. And a special thanks to the many who overcame their fear of public speaking and spoke from the podium in front of the city council and everyone in attendance.

Also our thanks to the many individuals who used their Internet skills to find the Bel Aire website and left a supporting comment.

And lastly, a great big "Thank You" to the many citizens who enjoyed the day by discharging fireworks on July 4. It was a fun day, even though it rained much of the day. Fireworks were going off most of the time, so some of you were having fun, even in the rain.

Many of our neighbors on Edinburg Circle shot fireworks during the day and then participated in one of

the "longest and biggest" nighttime fireworks displays that I have seen in a long time. I felt like a "kid" again. Carol said "Today was one of my all-time favorites!"

It was like an "all day block party" on Edinburg Circle. I walked up and down the street that day, talking to the neighbors and enjoyed seeing how much fun they were having. I think the adults (the big kids) were having just as much fun as the kids.

Yes, there was a big mess afterwards, but everyone on our street took care of their debris and did a great job of cleaning up. Hopefully this was true throughout Bel Aire. Part of the new ordinance states that everyone is responsible for cleaning up their own mess.

We are already looking forward to next year and thinking about more ways in which we can enjoy celebrating the Fourth of July as well as thinking about our troops who are in harm's way and the thanks they deserve for defending our freedoms.

Thanks again, to everyone! I hope next year will be even

- Don Pfortmiller, Bel Aire

Mayor's corner

By Harold Smith

7ell, here we are in the middle of another budget session. Again this year, finding the funds to make the land payment overwhelms anything else in the budget and affects everything in

This year we refinanced the land debt making it more manageable. Now, current and future citizens need to know that the city has a workable plan to make our contractual payments. There are three areas this plan must consider.

Selling land

This is the top priority but the hardest to plan for. My next project is to review our past efforts on selling land and in the process put together a new, more aggressive marketing plan. If you have any ideas on this, I will be pleased to talk to you.

City expenses

For several years, until we get some of the debt paid off, we will have a tight budget and will need to consider reductions in city services and expenses. This is certainly not the time to expand city services. I would again be pleased to hear from you if you have any suggestions on what city expenses to cut or not cut.

Tax levy

Bel Aire got itself into a financial hole and now it is time to start digging our way out. This will be a slow process and not without pain. I don't believe we can do it without an increase in taxes with the additional money until we can get a large part of the debt by the same amount. This will provide will get us through 2011 without major cuts in city services.

being used to help make the interest payments. This help will be needed paid off. My proposal for the 2011 budget is to increase our city mill levy by 3 mills and reduce city expenses a total of 9 mills in 2011 that will go into a reserve for land payments. This

Future budgets

The 2012 and 2013 budgets will be decided by the council seated at that time. Nevertheless, I am recommending that the tax levy for each of these two years also be increased by 3 mills with the increase again going into the reserve for land payments. Next, using a "guess" on what land will sell, when and at what price, I have a projection showing what it will take to make the interest payments and start paying off the principal. I have tried to be reasonable in estimating future land sales. In the past, to our detriment, we have been overly optimistic in estimating the amount of land sales. We need to work for more land sales and be prepared for less sales. I would be pleased for any interested citizen to critique this projection.

Budget approval

The final budget for 2011 will be approved on Aug. 17. A preliminary budget was approved on July 20 with a 4-mill increase in taxes. The mill levy for 2011 can be reduced but cannot be increased above this 4-mill increase declared on July 20.

Mill levy

One mill brings in \$45,000 to the city from real estate taxes. If you have a \$100,000 house, I mill will cost you \$11.50 per year. On a \$200,000 house, 1 mill equals \$23 per year. The 2010 city mill levy is 35.97.

Your thoughts

Citizens may voice their ideas at the Aug. 3 and Aug. 17 regular council meetings or at the council workshop, which will probably be on Aug. 9.

Bottom line

My three-year plan shows how the interest payments can be made along with a significant amount of principal payments. It also has a reserve fund in the event land sales are less than projected. Getting out of the land debt won't be easy but Bel Aire can do it!

Growth

Continued from Page 1

east Valley Center off of Ford (77th North) for nearly three years.

Lindsay Hodges said she liked the small-town feel of Valley Center, but cited the convenience of its location as a main draw.

Lindsay Hodges is from Mulvane and her husband is from Newton, making Valley Center a good midway point between families, Hodges

Hodges said she couldn't make a fair judgment on the school district because her children haven't started school yet.

"I've heard a lot of good things about the school district, but we haven't gotten to experience it yet,"

The new high school under construction at 93rd North and Meridian anticipates continued growth districtwide. However, McNown said it's premature to say how much of a pull the new high school, set to open in the fall of 2011, has had on potential

The schools are already attractive," McNown said. "Obviously, having the new building, expanding the school system, is a plus for the community, but I don't know how much you can attribute the new school for any growth."

McNown said there's been "a little bit of a slowdown" with growth over

You don't want a boom where the population grows so fast you can't keep up with the services, but you still want steady growth," Mc-Nown said. "Right now, it's just my feeling that we're keeping up with everybody else. I don't know that we're lagging behind or we're ahead of anybody. I think everybody's experiencing some problems right

Park City

In Park City, growth has occurred with economic development. Park City's population increased by about 38 percent from 2000 to July 2009, from 5,814 residents to an estimated

City Administrator Jack Whitson said he's helped bring a mix of housing developments and new businesses to Park City over the past decade. With housing, Whitson has adopted the strategy to build homes that are a step or two up from starter housing, but can still be affordable for middle-class families.

Whitson said the city is getting over "a reputation that wasn't the best." As the quality of homes

in Park City continues to improve with new developments, the city is shedding the label of "a starter" community, where residents bought inexpensive homes in Park City to start their careers, then moved out of town when they could afford an upgrade.

Whitson said he first addressed the problem with residents leaving Park City when he was the president of the community's chamber of commerce in 1995. From 1995 to 2005, Whitson served as Park City's economic development director, planning director, and the public works and compliance director. He became the city administrator in 2005.

Whitson said the first upgrade housing development was the Sunnyslope Addition between North Grove and Hillside on 61st North. The development allowed residents in the Navajo Lakes mobile home park and owners of small homes to move up while staying in Park City. The development also attracted new residents from outside Park City.

Sunnyslope Park was also built, which provided amenities for the residents. Whitson said the development's success drew the attention of builders who previously weren't interested in Park City.

"Now I can go to developers and say, 'See, you can sell houses in Park City," Whitson said. "For a long time, people that would sell houses up here would say, 'Houses for sale, northeast.' They wouldn't say Park City, because they were afraid people wouldn't buy (the houses) or wouldn't come up and look at them."

Now, there are eight upgraded housing developments in Park City, ranging in price from \$85,000 to about \$200,000.

Scott and Audrey Elmore moved into their home in the Millpointe Landing addition on North Hydraulic for less than a year. They said there wasn't much in particular that drew them to Park City when they moved. Like many new home owners in the area, it was a matter of finding an affordable home in a development they liked.

The Elmores also discussed the convenience factor with their employment. Scott works in Wichita while Audrey works in Newton.

Besides improving with housing developments, Whitson said commercial and industrial business development has helped bring new residents along with job opportuni-

"When you bring jobs up here, once in a while they'll buy a house up here," Whitson said. "... In a nutshell, we look at those items that are required to develop and we put the initiative together to make sure whatever is required for developKechi

ment is there, in place. That's a

simple explanation.'

Like Valley Center, much of Kechi's growth from 2000 to 2009 can be attributed to annexation, with expansion north and east from Heritage Hills near Rock Road and K-254 to Sunnydale, on 101st North between Hillside and Hydraulic.

Kechi has also grown in its city limits with new residents being drawn by a property tax mill levy that is lower than most area communities, although it has increased in recent years. Kechi Mayor Bob Jackson said homebuyers may also be drawn to a small, quiet town, with very little

From 2000 to 2009, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that Kechi had the second-most rapid growth in all of Sedgwick County. In April 2000, Kechi had 1,038 residents. In 2009, the population increased about 73 percent to 1,796.

Goddard led all of Sedgwick County by nearly doubling over the 10 years with a growth rate of 98.7 percent from 2000 to 2009. From 1990 to 2000, Kechi's population more than doubled from 517 residents to 1,038.

"Right now, (our population) has sort of plateaued out," Jackson said. "But I do expect that within a couple of years it will continue to increase. It probably won't increase as fast as what it did in the last decade, or in the '90s even."

Jackson said the city has developed a plan to encourage more businesses to come into the area and redevelop the town's downtown area, which once stood out as the state's antique capital.

He said Kechi's source for business development wouldn't come from the taxpavers, as the city looks to continue attracting new residents with a favorable property tax.

In 2007, teaching positions in the Valley Center school district brought Lee and Joanne Owens to the area from Dodge City. Joanne Owens said she likes the newness of her home in the Northwoods Addition near 69th North and Oliver, as well as the open space available without being in the country.

Owens said when she and her husband first visited their current home, they were sold on the place before even taking a look at the basement.

"When we saw this house, we knew it fit us," Owens said.

Jackson said he moved to Kechi with his wife, Victoria, about 16 years ago, drawn to the open space in the area.

it's got to help the local economy,"

the 10th annual event will expand

from one to three days and from one

'You can't just plan these things

At the pavilions, Higgs hosts the "Cowboy Extravaganza." In 2011,

'We've really enjoyed it," he said.

Pavilions

Continued from Page 1

Sedgwick County District 1 Commissioner Dave Unruh said keeping the pavilions open shows support for the agricultural sector, an important

component of Sedgwick County. "I think we all see this as an important component of the cultural identity of our community," Unruh said of the pavilions. "We want to be supportive of that. It makes sense and has value in our community, so we'll be supportive of that."

The improvements include \$300,000 to repave the parking lots. The other significant upgrade is the installation of a shower facility at the pavilions. A new restroom/shower building will cost \$112,425.

Unruh said the commitment to keep the pavilions open through 2016 gives frequent users of the facility some comfort. He said the commission didn't make a longer or open-ended commitment because it's unknown what will happen to the property as a whole, specifically with Britt Brown Arena.

One of the frequent users of the pavilions is Franklin Higgs, who's been part of events at the facility for more than 30 years. The Valley Center resident said his main interests are livestock, horses and rodeos.

Higgs said he did take some comfort knowing that the pavilions will stay open for at least six years, but felt the county commission was tentative with its timeline. He pointed out that commitments for large events are sometimes made a few years in advance.

"I think (the commission's decision) does make me feel some better, but some events that we're hoping to have won't commit themselves when you're that tentative," Higgs said. "I hate to see them put a timeline on it, then advertise it."

Among the large events Higgs said he'd like to see are national junior and high school rodeos. He said his grandson recently participated in the National Junior High Rodeo in Gallup, N.M.

"If you can draw a large number

of people over eight, nine, 10 days,

in a week," Higgs said. While the county's goal is to

Higgs said.

to three buildings.

break even at the pavilions, Higgs said he believes the facility can make money for the county with proper management and promotion. He said nothing would change with the pavilions "unless somebody does something a little differently."

He said raising prices at the pavilions isn't the answer to increasing revenues.

Bel Aire City of Bel Aire

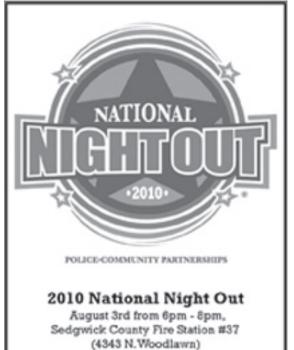


CITY OF BEL AIRE



The City of Bel Aire is celebrating its 30th Anniversary. The celebration kicks off with Music and Moonlight festival and continues all year ending with a November event to commemorate this historic occasion.

For more details visit our website at www.belaireks.gov



police officers and fire fighters and strengthen police-community partnership to create a softer community and nation.

CITY OF BEL AIRE **UPCOMING EVENTS**

August

- 2 Senior potluck, 6:30 p.m.
 - City Council, 7 p.m.

3

- 4 Chamber of Commerce, noon Municipal Court, 7 p.m.
- 9 City Council workshop, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Water Board, 2:30 p.m.
- 11 Bel Aire Lions Club, noon
- 12 Planning Commission, 6 p.m.
- 16 Tree Board, 7 p.m.
- City Council, 7 p.m. 17
- 19 Municipal Court, 12:30 p.m.
- 24 Economic Development Board, 7 p.m.
- 25 Bel Aire Lions Club, noon

Central Park Swimming Pool

7350 East Central Park Ave. • 744-7331

POOL HOURS WEEKDAYS

- Swim Lessons, 10 a.m. to
- p.m. • Open Swim, 1 to 7 p.m.
- Swimming Lessons, 7 to pate or have something to con- 8 p.m.

WEEKENDS • Sat. & Sun. 1 to 6 p.m.

MEMBERSHIPS — To become a pool member, download a form at www. belaireks.gov or come to the Rec Center. Mail the completed form with payment to the address listed on the form. For questions, call the pool at 744-7331 or the Bel Aire Recreation Department at 744-2700.

FEES — \$150 for families, individuals ages 12 and up \$100. Family membership includes two adults and dependent children residing in the home. Full-time college students living at home will be considered as dependents.

DAILY FEES — Under 12: subject to availability.

\$2 and must be accompanied by an adult. Over 12: \$3.

- All persons entering the pool must be a member or are subject to a day fee, including non-swimmers.
- Charges or credit are not extended.

POOL RENTALS

- Packages are available after normal business hours, subject to availability. • Up to 25 people: \$40/hour.
- More than 25 people: \$60/ hour (limited to 50 people). **GROUP SWIMMING**

LESSONS — Members \$25 (nonmembers \$35) per session. Morning sessions

• July 5-16, July 19-30

- 11 to 11:45 a.m., noon to 12:30 p.m.

Evening sessions

- July 5-16, July 29-30
- 7 to 7:45 p.m. Private swimming lessons

are by appointment and are

NOTES FROM CITY HALL

2011 Budget Discussion

The city council will continue discussions on 2011 budget. Regular city council meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. Aug. 3 and 17 in the Council Chamber.

The public hearing for the printed budget will be held Aug. 3. The council approved publishing the proposed budget July 20, which set the maximum mill levy at 39.970 mills for 2011. Public hearings are an opportunity for citizen's to voice opinions about the

proposed budget which has been discussed in Council meeting for the pervious two

A city council workshop is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Aug. 9 in the Council Chambers. The council will formally adopted the 2011 budget at the Aug. 17 meeting. Agendas and updated information are available on the website at www.belaireks.

Current meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 7 and rebroadcast daily at 9

Bel Aire Recreation

a.m., noon, 5 and 10 p.m.

City staff and Tim Brown are creating a 30th anniversary video. It will include interviews and photos covering the entire history of Bel Aire, from improvement district to

30th Anniversary Project

The video will debut at the 30th anniversary celebration at 2 p.m. Nov. 21. The video will be aired on local channel 7 and on will be available on the city's website.

flower Foundation. Class will meet from 6:30 to 7

If you would like to partici-

tribute to the project, please

Work on the Central Park

trail is nearly completed. The

Park swimming pool. Park

trail is located near the Central

amenities include the 1/2-mile

trail, benches, LED lights and

a playground area. The project

was paid for primarily through

a \$25,000 grant from the Sun-

call City Hall at 744-2451.

Central Park

Call 744-2700 for information on any Bel Aire recreation program.

p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays,

beginning Sept. 7.

5251 E. 48th North • www.belaireks.gov • 744-2700

Mon., Tue., & Thur. 8-8 • Wed. & Fri. 8-7 • Sat. 9-3

Coed outdoor soccer For boys and girls ages 9-11. Registration

deadline for residents is Aug. 6. Nonresidents may sign up Aug. 7 as space allows. Coed flag football Bel Aire will again team up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission. Practices will

be held at each team's respective home location, with games being played at both sites. For boys and girls in third through sixth grades. Registration deadline for residents is Aug. 13. Nonresidents may sign up Aug. 14th as space allows.

Dazzling Dancers

Classes will focus on ballet and jazz dance, and registration is required. Classes begin Tuesday, Sept. 2, with ages 4-6 meeting from 6 to 6:45 p.m. and ages 7 & up meeting from 7 to 8 p.m.

Maximize Basketball clinic/camp

Brent Atwater, a former collegiate player and coach, will conduct this clinic and camp. His programs stress the fundamentals of basketball which make them perfect for kids of all ages and skill levels. Girls' clinic for ages 5-12 will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Aug. 14. Boys' camp for ages 10-16 will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Aug. 16 through 19.

Girls volleyball

For girls in sixth through eighth grades. Registration deadline for residents is Aug. 27. Nonresidents may sign up Aug. 28 as space allows.

Punt, Pass & Kick

The NFL Punt, Pass & Kick program is for boys and girls ages 8-15 to compete separately against their peers in punting, passing and placekicking skills. Registration deadline is Aug. 20. Competition will be on Aug. 28 at a time to be announced.

Adult coed recreational volleyball

Registration is open to formed teams or individuals. Those registering individually will be placed on a team if possible. Teams shall have an equal number of men and women, with a limit of 10. Each team will play nine games. Registration deadline is Aug. 8.

Short sports

This instructional program for 3-year-olds will teach basic sports skills including throwing, catching, kicking and batting. Each child must have an adult partner. Registration is required.

Bel Aire Senior Center

All events are held at the Bel Aire Senior Center, 7651 E. Central Park Ave., unless otherwise noted and are for ALL SENIORS living in or near Bel Aire. The center is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and has library books to check out, places to study or do research and computers for use.

For more information about the center and its activities, contact Rick Eberhard, Senior Director, at either 744-2451, extension 121, or reberhard@belaireks.gov. Officer hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday (Excluding holidays, special events or senior-related meetings.)

Any senior can belong to or attend more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County

Every weekday, 8 to 9 a.m., Bel Aire Rec Center Sr. Walking

Bridge Every Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. Aerobics Sr. Breakfast Every Friday, 9 a.m. at Braum's, 3641 N. Rock Road, with Kechi

Over 55 Club

Wii time By request or when the senior center is available. Monthly potluck dinner and American Bandstand night. Music from the '50s Aug. 2, 6:30 p.m.

and '60s. Bring your own table service and covered dish items. Dress like you did in the '50s. Contests and prizes. Special guest by someone who actually

appeared on American Bandstand. Primary election day; vote at City Hall. Aug. 3

National Night Out with Bel Aire Police Department at County Fire Station 6 p.m.

No. 37 on Woodlawn. Visit the Senior Center and Lions Club booths Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m. Senior Center advisory board.

Aug. 9, 7 p.m. Central Park homeowners association meeting. Third annual Greater Wichita Senior Spelling Bee at 600 N. Greenwich Road. Aug. 10, 9:30 a.m.

Aug. 11, noon Bel Aire Lions Club meeting and lunch.

Senior arts & crafts day. Bring a sack lunch with your favorite project. Aug. 12, 10 a.m.

Senior fun night. Bring games and snacks or goodies, drinks provided. Aug. 13, 7 p.m. Aug. 14, 10 a.m. Senior Red Hat Society meeting. Call 744-0217 for information.

Aug. 15, TBA Single seniors dine out. Call 558-2820 for details. Aug. 17, 9 a.m. Tai Chi demonstration and information meeting. Signing up people to start a

class, hopefully in September. Call Rick Eberhard for more information Aug. 21, 9 a.m. Senior day trip to Hutchinson. Leave center at 9 a.m.; visit Kansas Underground

Salt Museum and Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center. Eat lunch in Hutch

(cost). RSVP to car pool at 744-2451, ext. 121, by Aug. 19.

Light supper, \$5 per person in advance (RSVP).

Senior pitch party. Bring snacks or goodies to share.

Bel Aire Lions Club lunch and meeting at senior center. Aug. 25, noon

Senior bunko night. 7 p.m.

Look for These Events in September

Aug. 27, 6 p.m.

744-7331

744-6000

7 p.m.

744-8609 911

Special Breakfast and Learn at Senior Center. Health Care Reform and Medicare, Sept. 10, 9 a.m. by Sara Taylor, Extension Agent and SHICK Coordinator for Sedgwick County. Sept. 14, 9 a.m. Heartspring FREE hearing test at center.

Senior Gala at the Cotillion (cost). Sept. 22 The Bel Aire Lions Club is collecting eye glasses no longer being used. Drop them off in the Senior Center or water office at city hall.

Contact Rick Eberhard, Senior Director of the Bel Aire Senior Center, at either 744-2451, extension 121, or e-mail reberhard@belaireks.gov to receive the Bel Aire Senior Center news, information, special events and upcoming trips electronically or via the U.S. mail.

Bel Aire Senior Club

Activities are held at 4551 N. Auburn unless otherwise noted. Those 55-plus are welcome to participate. For information on programs and services for seniors, contact Vicki Shepard, Tri-City Senior Director, at 744-1199. The club is self-governed and activities benefit all participating seniors.

- Monday through Friday, 8 to 9 a.m., walking at Bel Aire Rec Center.
- Mondays 10 a.m., free computer class at Park City Senior Center. • Wednesdays 2:30 p.m., free line dancing lessons, Park City Senior Center.

City Hall

Ty Lasher, City Administrator 744-2451, ext. 217

Recreation Department

- Wednesdays (2nd & 3rd), 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., round dance workshop, level 4, Park City Senior Center.
- Thursday 9 to 11:30 a.m. (except second Thursday of month), Wii open play, Park City Senior Center. • Thursdays (2nd and 4th), 7 to 9 p.m., square dance lessons & dancing, Park City Senior Center. Fee. Toe nail care, second Wednesday each month. \$25 at the center or \$35 at your home. Call Brenda 946-0722 for an appointment.

Call Vicki Shepard, Tri-City Senior Director, 744-1199 for a complete schedule of activities in August.

CITY OF BEL AIRE CONTACTS

City Council Central Park Pool Parks Department Mayor Harold Smith 744-2650 Police • Emergency Dr. Gary Breault 744-0560 • Non-emergency Peggy O'Donnell 744-0250 Animal Control (Sedgwick County) Carolyn Marlier 744-2313 Public Works David Austin 744-7188 Dave Sly 204-5574

744-2700

660-7070 744-2888 Water/Sewer Emergency (after 5 p.m.) 761-6972 or 761-6973 **Utility Billing** 744-2451, ext. 132 1-800-230-0383 Trash (Stutzman) Hazardous Waste (Sedgwick County) 660-7464

POLICE REPORTS

responded to an auto theft in the 5700 block of Fast 53rd North.

July 4 — Officer Steele responded to a fireworks complaint in the 5900 block of East Flagstaff.

July 4 — Officer Swanson assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in the 10300 block of East K-254.

July 4 — Officers Toomey and Foxx responded to vandalism in the 4400 block of North Edgemoor.

July 4 — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4000 block of North Parkwood.

July 4 — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4800 block of

North Homestead. July 4 — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4900 block of

North Hillcrest. **July 4** — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4800 block of

North Homestead. **July 4** — Officer Toomey responded to a fireworks complaint in the 5100

block of East Ashton. **July 4** — Officer Toomey responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4800

block of North Harding. **July 4** — Officer Toomey responded

to a fireworks complaint in the 4400 block of North Westlake Court.

July 4 — Officer Toomey responded to a fireworks complaint in the 5000 block of Fast 39th North.

July 3 — Officer McCaslin responded to an accident in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn.

July 3 — Officer McGuire found property in the 7000 block of East 45th

July 3 — Officer Hutton responded to disorderly conduct in the 4300 block of

North Stratford Court. **July 3** — Officer Foxx responded to a

fireworks complaint in the 4000 block of North Parkwood. **July 3** — Officer Hazelwood

responded to an alarm in the 500 block of East Memphis.

July 3 — Officer Hazelwood responded to a fireworks complaint in

the 4800 block of East 44th Court. **July 3** — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4300 block of

North Eagle Lake Court. **July 3** — Officer Foxx arrested a juvenile on a charge of aggravated assault in the 4200 block of North

Rushwood Court. Officer Hazelwood July 3 responded to a disturbance in the 4200

July 2 — Officer McGuire assisted Kansas Highway Patrol in the 4800 block of East K-254.

block of North Rushwood.

July 2 — Officer McGuire responded to an alarm in the 4400 block of North

July 2 — Officer Hutton found property in the 4500 block of North

Woodlawn. July 2 — Officer responded to a fireworks complaint in the 5900 block of

East Flagstaff. Officer Hazelwood responded to a fireworks complaint in

the 4900 block of North Highland. July 2 — Officer Hazelwood responded to a fireworks complaint in

the 4100 block of North Danbury. **July 2** — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 3800 block of

North Oliver. July 2 — Officer Foxx cited Edwin

M. Omenta in the 5300 block of East 45th North on traffic violations and for transporting an open container.

July 2 — Officer McGuire checked the welfare at K-254 and Hillside.

July 2 — Officer McGuire responded to a disturbance at 37th North and

Woodlawn. July 2 — Officer Foxx responded to a fireworks complaint in the 3800 block of

North Oliver. July 2 — Officer Webb assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in the 5200 block of North Webb Road.

July 2 — Officer Steele responded to a traffic hazard at 53rd North and Webb

Detective Pentecost responded to larceny in the 4100 block

Officer McGuire assisted July 1 — Wichita Police Department in the 700 block of North Broadway. July 1 — Officers McGuire and

Swanson assisted Sedgwick County Fire Department at 4650 North Hillcrest.

July 1 — Detective Pentecost found property in the 4500 block of North Hillcrest.

July 1 — Detective Pentecost responded to a fireworks complaint in

the 4700 block of Hedgerow Court. **July 1** — Officer Swanson responded to an alarm in the 4900 block of North

July 1 — Officer McCaslin responded to an alarm in the 3800 block of North Hillcrest.

LOUISE HOTALING

Louise J. Hotaling, 89,

mother and mother-in-law of

Jackie and Gary O'Neal of Bel Aire, died June 28, 2010.

No services will be held in

by husband Alan; parents

She was preceded in death

James Walter, Lyda; stepfather

and Billy Lee; and sister Doris.

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Luther; brothers J.W., Lloyd

DEATH

July 1 — Officer Swanson responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn.

July 1 — Officer Foxx found property in the 5200 block of East 48th North. **July 1** — Officer McCaslin assisted a

motorist at 53rd North and Woodlawn. June 30 — Officer Swanson found property in the 8300 block of East 45th

June 30 — Officer Swanson assisted Wichita Police Department in the 2100 block of North Oliver.

June 30 — Officer Swanson responded to a traffic hazard in the 4600

block of North Oliver. June 30 — Officer McGuire checked on a suspicious person at Perryton and

June 29 — Officer Brandewiede

responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of East 37th North. June 29 — Officer McGuire assisted

Kechi Police Department in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake Court. **June 29** — Officer McGuire arrested

Chuncey Clark on a charge of driving with a suspended license in the 4400

block of North Woodlawn. **June 29** — Officer Hutton responded to larceny in the 3800 block of North

June 29 — Officer McGuire found

property in the 8000 block of East 53rd June 29 — Officer McGuire responded

to disorderly conduct in the 4100 block of North Clarendon.

June 29 — Officer Hutton responded to a 911 hang-up call in the 4200 block

of Stratford. June 28 — Officer Steele responded

to larceny in the 7100 block of East 45th

June 28 — Officer Hutton responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4700

block of North Hedgerow Court. June 28 — Officer Hutton assisted Park City Police Department in the 6800

block of East 45th North. June 28 — Officer Foxx checked for

a suspicious person in the 4900 block of

North Woodlawn. June 28 — Officer Toomey cited Justin Bradley Larsen for under age

possession of alcohol in the 4200 block of North Woodlawn. June 28 — Officer Hutton responded to a traffic hazard at K-254 and I-135.

June 28 — Officer Hazelwood assisted Kechi Police Department in the 6300 block of North Woodlawn. June 27 — Officers Swanson and

Hutton checked for a suspicious person in the 4100 block of North Harding. June 27 — Officer Foxx responded to

a fireworks complaint in the 4500 block of Westlake Court. June 27 — Officer Foxx assisted

Wichita Police Department in the 3700 block of North Rock Road. June 27 — Officer Foxx responded

to vandalism in the 5100 block of June 27 — Officer Foxx responded to

a fireworks complaint in the 4000 block of North Farmstead. June 26 — Officer Steele assisted

Wichita Police Department in the 4500 block of North Broadview Circle. June 26 — Officer Hutton responded

to an alarm in the 3900 block of North Harding. **June 26** — Officer Hutton responded to trash dumping in the 10700 block of

East 45th North. June 26 — Officer Foxx assisted Wichita Police Department in the 3500 block of North Rock Road.

June 26 — Officer Steele checked for a suspicious person at 45th North and Oliver.

June 26 — Officers Hazelwood and Foxx responded to an alarm in the 3500

block of North Rock Road. June 25 — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of East 37th North.

- Officer Steele cited June 25 Antonio Garcia-Brentonin in the 4200 block of North Woodlawn for driving with

a suspended license. June 25 — Officer Foxx responded to a disturbance in the 6000 block of

June 25 — Officer Foxx assisted Wichita Police Department in the 5100 block of Remington. Officer McCaslin June 25

responded to an alarm in the 3900 block of North Harding. Officer Brandewiede June 24 -

responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of East 37th North. June 24 — Officer Brandewiede

assisted Park City Police Department in the 4700 block of East 37th North. June 24 — Officer Brandewiede found an animal in the 4800 block of

North Hillcrest. June 24 — Detective Pentecost found property in the 5200 block of Ashton. June 24 — Detective Pentecost responded to disorderly conduct in the

daughter and son-in-law

Kingston, Okla.; son and

daughter-in-law Gene and

Helene Hotaling of Ocala, Fla.;

nine grandchildren; 16 great-

grandchildren; and 15 great-

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4400 block of Eagle Lake.

June 24 — Officer Swanson responded to an accident in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn.

June 24 — Officers Hazelwood and Foxx checked on a suspicious person in

the 4100 block of North Danbury. **June 23** — Officer McGuire assisted

Wichita Police Department in the 4400 block of North Rock Road.

June 23 — Officer McGuire arrested

Alfephus Gulley in the 4900 block of North Elk Creek Drive on a charge of DUI. June 23 — Sgt. Spencer responded

to an alarm in the 6200 block of East June 23 — Officer Hazelwood

responded to a burglary in the 4000 block of Danbury.

June 23 — Officer Hazelwood assisted Kechi Police Department in the 300 block of East

Kechi Road. **June 23** — Sgt. Spencer and Officers McGuire and Swanson assisted Wichita

Department in the 8100 block of Old

June 22 — Officer Brandewiede assisted EMS in the 4800 block of North

Farmstead. June 22 — Officer McGuire responded

to an accident in the 4200 block of North Country Lane.

June 22 — Sat. Spencer responded to a public accident in the 4700 block of

Eagle Landing. June 22 - Officer Hazelwood assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office

in the 6700 block of North 127th East. **June 22** — Officer Hazelwood and Sgt. Griggs checked for a suspicious

person in the 4600 block of North June 21 — Officers Swanson and

Hutton responded to an alarm in the 4300 block of North Rushwood. June 21 — Officer Hutton responded

to an alarm in the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Drive. June 21 — Officer Foxx and Sgt.

Griggs responded to an accident in the 3700 block of North Woodlawn. June 21 — Sgt. Griggs responded

to an alarm in the 4900 block of North Willow Point. June 21 — Officer Foxx assisted a

stalled motorist at 37th North and Rock June 21 — Officer Brandewiede

responded to a disturbance at 61st North and Rock Road. June 21 — Officer Steele checked the welfare at 45th North and Woodlawn.

June 20 — Officer Brandewiede responded to an alarm in the 5900 block of East 37th North. June 20 — Officers Toomey and Foxx

responded to an alarm in the 6000 block of East Danbury. June 20 — Officer Foxx arrested Rashayla Hamilton in the 3900 block of

North Woodlawn on a charge of driving with a suspended license. **June 20** — Officer Toomey responded to an Alarm in the 4900 block of North

Hedgerow Court. **June 20** — Officer Toomey responded to an alarm in the 4900 block

of Hedgerow. June 19 — Officer Steele assisted EMS in the 3900 block of North Oliver. June 19 — Officer Steele assisted

EMS in the 5800 block of East Memphis. June 19 — Detective Pentecost assisted Wichita Police Department and EMS in the 3700 block of North Rock Road.

June 19 — Officer Foxx received found property in the 5900 block of East 45th North.

June 19 Detective Pentecost assisted a motorist at 40th North and Danbury.

June 19 — Officer Hutton assisted a stalled motorist at 37th North and Oliver. June 19 — Officer McCaslin assisted a motorist in the 5300 block of North Woodlawn.

June 18 Detective Pentecost assisted Wichita Police Department in the 5300 block of North Hillside.

June 18 — Officer McGuire cited Joshua L. Beckner in the 6400 block of East 53rd North for illegal tags and possession of marijuana

June 18 — Officer Hazelwood responded to vandalism in the 4000 block of Woodlawn Court. June 18 — Sgt. Griggs responded to suspicious person in the 6600 block of

East Odessa June 18 — Officer Hazelwood

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responded to disorderly conduct at K-254 and Webb Road.

June 17 — Officer Brandewiede assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office at K-254 and Greenwich Road.

June 17 — Detective Pentecost responded to an assault in the 4100

block of North Woodlawn. June 17 — Sgt. Spencer responded to an alarm in the 3800 block of North

June 17 — Officer McGuire responded to fraud and identity theft in the 4400

block of North St. James Place. June 17 — Officer Brandewiede and Detective Pentecost assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office at K-254 and

Greenwich Road. June 16 — Officer Brandewiede assisted Kansas Highway Patrol at mile

marker 10 on K-254. June 16 — Detective Pentecost assisted EMS in the 4300 block of North

June 16 — Officer Hazelwood and Sgt. Griggs responded to an audible alarm in the 6000 block of East Danbury.

June 16 — Sgt. Spencer assisted a motorist in the 9300 block of East 45th North

June 16 — Officer McGuire checked on an abandoned vehicle in the 4600 block of North Farmstead.

June 15 — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of East 37th North.

June 15 — Officer assisted FBI in the 7900 block of Caribou. June 15 — Officer Hutton assisted

EMS in the 4200 block of North Westlake. June 15 — Officer Hazelwood

arrested Kirk A. Kelly in the 5500 block of North Woodlawn on a charge of DUI. June 15 — Sgt. Griggs assisted Wichita Police Department in the 5900

block of East Clarendon. June 15 — Officer Hazelwood assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in the 10500 block of North 47th East.

to an animal complaint in the 4800 block of North Krueger. June 15 — Officer McGuire responded to a traffic hazard at Perryton

June 15 — Officer McGuire responded

and Woodlawn. June 15 — Officer Hutton assisted Sedgwick County Fire Department in the 5600 block of East 48th North

June 14 — Officer Brandewiede responded to a runaway in the 6500 block of East Odessa. **June 14** — Officer Steele responded

to an alarm in the 7800 block of East Turauoise. **June 14** — Officers Foxx and Toomey assisted Wichita Police Department in the

4800 block of North Farmstead Court. June 14 - Officer Foxx assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's office in the 200 block of East Central in Greenwich.

June 14 — Officer Hutton checked on a suspicious person in the 4400 block of **July 13** — Officer Steele assisted EMS in the 4400 block of North Edgemoor

July 13 — Officer McGuire responded to an accident in the 7600 block of East Central Park Avenue. July 13 — Officer Swanson responded

to larceny in the 4700 block of North

July 13 — Sgt. Spencer cited Phillip

Hedgerow Court.

D. Wagner for driving with a suspended license in the 5000 block of North Webb July 13 — Officer McGuire checked the welfare at 53rd North and K-254.

July 13 — Officer McGuire checked the welfare in the 5600 block of East 39th North July 13 — Officer Swanson and Sgt.

6000 block of Fast Clarendon. July 13 — Officer Hutton checked for a suspicious person in the 5600 block of 53rd North.

July 12 — Officer Steele responded

Griggs responded to a disturbance in the

to vandalism in the 5800 block of East **July 12** — Officer Steele responded to larceny in the 5600 block of East 39th

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July 12 — Officer Brandewiede checked for a suspicious person in the

6000 block of East Flagstaff. **July 12** — Officer Swanson found property in the 4800 block of North Woodlawn.

July 12 — Officer Hutton responded to a traffic hazard at 45th North and

Woodlawn. July 11 — Officer Steele checked for

a suspicious person in the 4200 block of North Rushwood. July 11 — Officer Brandewiede

assisted Kechi Police Department in the 6100 block of North Oliver. **July 11** — Officer Steele assisted

EMS in the 4200 block of North Westlake July 11 — Officer Brandewiede

assisted Park City Police Department at 270 W. 53rd North in Park City. **July 11** — Officer Hutton responded to an accident in the 6500 block of East

July 10 — Officer Steele checked for a suspicious character in the 4000 block of North Oliver. **July 10** — Officer Steele responded

45th North.

to larceny in the 4900 block of North Parkhurst. **July 10** — Officer Steele responded

to disorderly conduct in the 6600 block of East Rodeo Court. July 10 - Officers McGuire and

McCaslin stood by in the 6900 block of East Perryton. July 10 — Officer Foxx assisted a motorist in the 6100 block of East 37th

July 10 — Officer McGuire checked on an abandoned vehicle in the 5000

block of East 39th North. July 10 — Officer Hutton checked on a suspicious person in the 3600 block of North Rock Road.

July 10 — Officer Hutton checked for a suspicious person at 4700 North Webb **July 10** — Officer McCaslin responded

to an animal at-large at 53rd North and

July 10 — Officer McCaslin assisted a citizen at 45th North and Edgemoor. July 10 — Officer McCaslin assisted a

motorist at 37th North and Oliver.

Woodlow.

Kechi Police Department in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. **July 9** — Officer Steele responded

to an alarm in the 6200 block of East

July 10 — Detective Pentecost assist

July 9 — Officer Steele responded to an accident at Clarendon and Perryton July 9 — Officer McGuire issued a citation for running a red light at 37th North and Oliver. July 9 — Officer McGuire responded

of North Clarendon. July 9 — Officer Foxx assisted Wichita Police Department in the 4500 block of North Webb Road.

to disorderly conduct in the 4100 block

July 9 — Officer McGuire responded to a traffic hazard in the 6000 block of **July 9** — Officers McGuire and Hutton

checked for a suspicious person in the

July 9 — Officer Foxx checked on a

suspicious person at Prairie Creek and

4200 block of North Rushwood.

July 9 — Officers McGuire and Hutton responded to an animal complaint in the 4200 block of North Rushwood.

July 8 — Detective Pentecost responded to disorderly conduct in the

5900 block of East Hanover. July 8 — Detective Pentecost assisted stranded motorist at 53rd North and

Greenwich. July 8 — Officer Steele assisted EMS

in the 5700 block of East Kenawee. July 8 — Officer Steele responded to

an alarm in the 2900 block of North Rock July 8 — Officer McCaslin responded

to an alarm in the 6700 block of Quail July 7 — Officer McGuire assisted Wichita Police Department in the 4500

block of North Eagle Lake Drive. **July 7** — Officer Swanson responded to fraud in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn Court.

July 7 — Sgt. Griggs assisted a citizen in the 5000 block of North Woodlawn.

July 7 — Officers McGuire and Swanson responded to an alarm in the 4900 block of North Highland. **July 7** — Officer McGuire responded

to a disturbance in the 15900 block of East 101st North. July 7 — Officer McGuire checked

on a suspicious person at 3800 North Parkwood. July 6 — Officer Steele responded to vandalism at Central Park Avenue

and Yorkshire.

Auburn.

animal control in the 6300 block of North Woodlawn. **July 6** — Detective Pentecost arrested Johan J. Valente-Martinez on a charge of driving with a suspended

July 6 — Officer Steele assisted

license and a Sedgwick County warrant in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. July 6 — Detective Pentecost assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office at 4500 North Woodlawn.

July 6 — Officer Swanson responded

to larceny in the 400 block of North

July 6 — Officer Swanson assisted Park City Police Department with a warrant arrest at 7651 E. Central Park

July 6 — Officer Swanson assisted

Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in

6300 block of East 157th North.

North Woodlawn.

July 5 — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of East Woodlow. July 5 — Officer Foxx assist Wichita

Police Department in the 3800 block of

July 5 — Officers Steele and Brandewiede checked the welfare at 47th North and Woodlawn. **July 5** — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 6200 block of Flagstaff. **July 5** — Officer Foxx responded

to an alarm in the 3800 block of North July 5 — Officer Hutton assisted Kechi Police Department in the 400 block of Sioux Court.

July 5 — Officer Hutton assisted Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office in the



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August 3, 2010

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HIGHLIGHTS Bel Aire teams complete successful season

School right around the corner

Summer officially ends on Aug. 13 for the Valley Center school district, when kindergartners through sixth-grade students, ninth-graders and students new to the district have their first day of school. All students will attend Aug. 16. The Wichita school district also will start Aug. 16, preceded by an in-service day and orientation for sixth- and ninth-graders on Aug. 13.

— The Breeze staff

Night Out set for Aug. 3

The Bel Aire Police Department along with Sedgwick County Fire Station No. 37 will participate in the 27th Annual National Night Out from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 3 at the fire station, 3434 N. Woodlawn.

National Night Out, a yearlong community-building campaign, is designed to: heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

McGruff the Crime Dog will be on hand. There will be inflatables for the kids as well as operation I-Dent-A-Kid. Family Video will have a dunk tank and Target Stores will sponsor prizes for kids. There will be free drinks and hot dogs.

— The Breeze staff

By The Breeze staff

The Bel Aire Bandits teams placed second and third in the Wichita Heights Junior Baseball Softball League.

Coaches and team members of the 11-12-year-old Bandits who placed second with a 13-1 record are head coach Scott Schul, assistant coaches Eric Bruckner, Scott Antone, Derek Casey, Scott Schirmer, Barry Ward and Tom Schmitz, and team members: Alex Schul, Blake Carroll, Cole Hager, Ty Bruckner, Aaron Bechtel, Michael Schirmer, Jarrod Casey, Travis Casey, Kurtis Schmitz, Taylor Martin, Morgan Ward, Jonah Lies, Ryan Hatchett and Matthew Antone.

Coaches and team mem-

bers of the 13-14-year-old Bandits who placed third with a 9-5 record are head coach Bill Carroll, assistant coaches Michael Langlois, Scott Schul and Chuck Downing, and team members Brett Carroll, Tyler Depperschmidt, Matthew Samsel, Nathan Thom, Hausten Irving, Kevin Foster, Nathanael Lawton, Taylor Langlois, Nick Lechner, Casey Schmidt, Trevor Schul, Christopher Hatchett and Ryan Downing.

The other Bel Aire teams that participated in the WHJB-SL had a successful season. This includes the Buffaloes in the 13-14-year-old baseball division, the Storm in the 13-15year-old softball division, and the Flame in the 11-12-year-old baseball division.



Action from the 2010 Wichita Heights Junior Baseball Softball League season.

Budget

Continued from Page 1

Schmidt attended the meeting after he heard that an offer was put on the table at the July 13 budget workshop to close the rec center.

Smith said selling the rec center was discussed, but wasn't a recommended action.

"You don't want to close the rec center," Schmidt said. "That'd be ridiculous. It's the only place in town that kids can go and have a good time. ... You take that away, you take the heart of the community away."

Resident Scott Schul spoke highly of the staff at the rec center and the importance of the facility for Bel Aire to maintain its identity.

The city spends about

\$240,000 on the rec center each year and receives about \$80,000 in revenues to operate it. With the extra \$160,000 having a minimal impact on the overall budget, Schul asked whether the council had turned over every rock in search of money-saving opportunities.

Council member Dave Austin said he felt like more cuts could be available to keep the council from having to raise taxes, possibly through raising fees and freezing city employee salaries. He said city employees deserve raises, but if citizens don't want a tax increase, there's not much that can be done. Residents Lloyd Endicott, Ron Hupman and Connie Schmidt also weighed in during the budget discussion.

Endicott wondered about the necessity of a few expenses for the council to consider. Hupman wondered what the city could save with a settlement over the jail fee dispute with Sedgwick County.

Connie Schmidt works for a commercial real estate company. She asked the council and city staff what they were doing to market land sales.

Smith said the council will focus on a solid marketing plan for land sales after the 2011 budget is finalized.

Lasher said 10 lots have been sold in the Central Park community over the last six months. Bel Aire's valuation also increased by nearly 1.5 percent in 2010.

A public hearing on the budget was set for the Aug. 3 council meeting at Bel Aire City Hall. A workshop was set for Aug. 9. The council was given an Aug. 17 deadline to adopt the final budget.



20th anniversary

Courtesy photo

Catholic Care Center celebrates its 20th anniversary with an open house and reception July 10. Hundreds of residents, volunteers, families and staff were on hand for the celebration ceremony led by Monsignor Robert Hemberger. Tours and refreshments followed. The centerpiece featured a cake made in the image of the Catholic Care Center's front entrance.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran Church

Summer service times will be at 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. There will be no children's Sunday school during the summer.

The church is located at 5356 N. Hillside (53rd North and Hillside) across from Heights High School.

Find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org; e-mail office@clc.kscoxmail. com. Call the office at 744-1242 for more information.

Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel

Masses for the Lord's Day are Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school Web site is www.resurrectionwichita. com. Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. Sherman A. Orr is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

The church is located at 4551 Auburn, south of 45th North between Oliver and Woodlawn, in Bel Aire.

Worship service and breaking of the bread is at 9 a.m., with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:30 on Sundays. Wednesday evening,

prayer and Bible study is at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Melvan Adair at 744-7091.

Crossroads Friends Church

Crossroads Friends Church meets at Stucky Middle School (on 45th North between Hillside and Oliver) at 10:30 a.m.

We have an inflatable bounce house (with a smaller one for children under the age of 4) and newly redesigned Crossroads Kids and Crossroads Cribs ministry areas. We also have contemporary music, relevant Bible teaching and a laid-back, friendly atmosphere.

Lead pastor is David Norman and associate pastor is Jeff Mullen. Call the church office at 361-0407 or visit it at www. crossroadswichita.com.

Fairmount United Church of Christ

The church is located at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita. Adult and children's Sunday school classes begin at 9:15 a.m. with worship service at 10:30. Michael Poage is the pastor. For more information, please call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountucc.com.

Kechi United Methodist Church

Located at 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi, the Rev. Guy E. Rendoff is the pastor. Church phone number is 744-1221, its website is www.kechiumc.org and its e-mail address is kechiumc@hotmail.

Sunday worship is at 9:03 a.m., praise and worship at 10 and Sunday school at 11.

The PPR committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 4.

Sisters in Christ will meet at 2 p.m. Aug. 5 at the home of Jan McLaughlin. United Methodist Women will have its general meeting at 7 p.m. in the parlor, and the Leadership Team will meet from 7 to 9 p.m.

A group will meet for walking at 6 p.m. each Tuesday during the summer.

Yoga meets 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Kechi City

The church is collecting 18-ounce jars of peanut butter and tuna fish for the United Methodist Open Door Food Ministry.

Park City Church of the Nazarene

Sunday school for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. Worship and children's church are at 10:45. The church is located at 2100 E. 61st North in Park City. Wednesday Bible study for adults begins with sandwiches and chips at 6:15 p.m.

Pine Valley Christian Church

Located at 5620 E. 21st North. Sunday school at 9 a.m. with worship at 10:15. For more information call 685-2421.

True Life Church

True Life Church is a new church coming to northeast Wichita this fall.

True Life will meet at Gammon Elementary on at 10:10 a.m. July 18 for a sneak peek worship experience. Awesome Rockin' Jam Camps are being held in the Bel Aire area during July and August for kids kindergarten through fifth grade. Sign-up at www. jointhejamlive.com. For more information, call 978-9292 or visit www.experienceTLC.

University United Methodist Church

Located across from the WSU campus at 21st & Yale. Sunday activities include adult and youth educational classes at 9:15 a.m. traditional service at 10:30 and youth group activities from 4 to 6 p.m. E-mail uumc2220@uumc.net; phone 686-6765. Rev. Phil

Shull is the pastor.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.

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Family helps history come alive PEOPLE HIGHLIGHTS The following incoming Seth D. Houston. A

Mother, daughter first Girl Scouts to earn ranger patch

By The Breeze staff

Bel Aire residents Linda Steele Thom, her 16-year-old daughter, Alaina, and 14year-old son, Nathan, like to talk about the weekend they spent in early July, strolling the grounds of Fort Larned, dressed in period clothing and helping the Fort's history come alive for visitors.

"I have a new appreciation for the women back then, and how they often dressed. While hoop skirts are certainly colorful and picturesque, I never realized how challenging it could be to get around in them, especially in the strong Kansas wind," observed Linda, who, along with her



Courtesy photo

Bel Aire residents Linda, Alaina and Nathan Thom spent the Fourth of July weekend strolling the grounds of Fort Larned National Historic Site dressed in period clothing and helping the fort's history come alive for visitors. They are pictured with George Elmore, Fort Larned Chief Ranger.

daughter, is a member of Girl Scout Troop 175 in Bel Aire.

The Thoms were the first Girl Scouts to earn the Resource Stewardship Scout

Ranger patch at Fort Larned, which offers a new, National Park Service-tailored patch/ certificate program for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers across the United States The program supports the NPS goal of introducing youth to the outdoors.

"Those earning the patch at Fort Larned can attend rangerled tours, assist with volunteer interpretive programs, and participate in natural and historical service projects around the fort," explained Park Ranger Zack Corpus. "Fort Larned features many beautifully restored buildings, and gives you a chance to experience military life on the Santa Fe Trail."

Information on earning the Ranger Patch at Fort Larned, which is located six miles west of Larned on K-156, can be found at: http://www.nps. gov/fols/supportyourpark/resource-stewardship-girl-scoutranger-program.htm

E-mail fols superintendentanps.gov or call (620) 285-6911.

University of Kansas students and their parents were welcomed into the KU family at a Jayhawk Generations Welcome Picnic July 13 in Wichita.

Heights High School Robert A. Aaby, William John Bachman, Joseph Beeler, Keri Brush, Macy Colson and Umar Hamdeh, all of Wichita. Independent — David Meeth of Wichita.

Kapaun Mt. Carmel — Lucas Hanson, John Singer, and Daniel Val, all of Wichita. Trinity Academy — Chloe

Reusser of Wichita. Wichita Collegiate — Kamilah Sharpe of Wichita.

Wichita East — Taylor Broadfoot, Tyler Johnson, Stacy Mar and Dillon Park, all of Wichita.

Wichita Southeast — Ashlyn Heidebrecht and Joanna Hlavacek, both of Wichita.

The KU Alumni Association and its Wichita chapter greeted the next generation of Jayhawks at the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame at the Wichita Boathouse. Area alumni, new students, students interested in learning more about KU and parents were invited to attend and enjoy complimentary food and beverages. Each new Jayhawk will also receive a free T-shirt.

The following area students were named to the dean's honor roll for the spring semester 2010 at Wichita State Univer-

From Valley Center: Katherine L. Bally, Zachary T. Banick, Clinton D. Bleier, Ryan A. Brungardt, Laura J. Burkholder, Candise R. Burroughs, Alicia R. Calvert, Stephanie M. Capps, Scott J. Carter, Chelsea R. Carver, Megan S. St. Clair, Benjaman T. Crow, Tammy E. Dorsey, Lisa I. Douglass, Leslie A. Garren, Shayla R. Hoefgen,

Seth D. Houston, Allyson J. Huebert, Corey M. Jackson, Brianna D. Kaiser, Joshua A. Kiefer, Jeffrey A. Kounter, Paul J. McCulley, Andrew J. Moore, Donald B. Moore, Devin L. Naccarato, Shelby L. Nesbit, Kelli M. Pankratz, Jessica L. Rempe, Haley R. Roe, Rachel A. Safarik, Brian G. Simpson, Erica S. Sizemore, Nathaniel K. Smisor, Amie L. Stuke, Aaric W. Thompson, Alec T. Toews, Nicholas D. Trombold, David H. Turley, Paul J. Vernacchia, Shawn C. Vredenburg, Catherine M. Wall, Sara M. White and Teresa R. Worman.

From Bel Aire: Patricia Engelbrecht, Rachel E. Jones, Robyn A. Jones, Sarah D. Mc-Gee, Jewel R. Melugin, Chai Fang Tan, Eve H. Terrell and Sheryl N. Wenzl.

From Kechi: Daniel J.

Chaney.

To be included on the dean's honor roll, a student must be enrolled full time (at least 12 credit hours) and earn at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The following Bel Aire students were spring semester 2010 graduates from Wichita State University: Mohammad S. Anwar, master of social work; Pedro J. Gimenez Britos, master of science in industrial engineering; Monique C. Brown, master of social work; Benjamin Collogan, master of business administration; Jenna L. Fiala, master of business administration; and Sheryl N. Wenzl, bachelor of arts in education, magna cum laude.

Undergraduate students who have attained a grade point average of 3.9 out of a possible 4.0 received the summa cum laude award; those with an average of 3.55 received the magna cum laude award; and those with an average of 3.25 received the cum laude.

Fire

Continued from Page 1

shop behind the house, came inside for some lunch.

Dennis said he'd been in the front yard about 90 minutes before having lunch and didn't smell anything unusual. Eventually, the whiff of smoke entered the house. Cheryl thought Dennis had made a mistake when trying to cook leftover bratwursts.

"I thought he was cooking them in the wrapper," Cheryl said. "I was so mad at him, but I felt so bad I didn't get up or I didn't say anything to him."

After finishing his lunch shortly after 1 p.m., Dennis went back to his shop and sat down for a while, deciding it was too hot outside to try weed eating in the yard.

"(Cheryl) called me on the intercom and said, 'Dennis, you need to come to the house, something is really starting to smell and something's getting hot," Dennis said.

Dennis went into the house through the back and noticed a burnt smell, but couldn't identify the source. He checked the main floor of his home and the basement, including the sump pump and air conditioning unit.

After inspecting the basement, Dennis walked into the living room.

"The window was open enough where I could see the front porch and it was on fire," Dennis said.

He said the rungs on the railing looked like burning matchsticks. Dennis alerted Cheryl that the house was on fire and told her to call 911.

The McCallums walked out of the house through the back door. Their black cat, Ebony, an inside cat, wanted no part of going outside.

Dennis said he tried to kick Ebony out the door, but she jumped over his foot and ran down the hall. Dennis tried to catch her, but Ebony reached the bedroom and crawled under the bed, out of his reach.

"I thought to myself, 'Well, Back to School with



Matt Heilman

Dennis and Cheryl McCallum are temporarily residing in the LaCrosse Apartments complex on North **Woodlawn after losing their Bel Aire home to a fire** July 1.

you probably lost your life, cat," Dennis said. "I'm not staying for you.""

By that time, the living room and another room toward the front of the house were involved in flames. Seven minutes after Cheryl made the call to 911 shortly before 3 p.m., fire crews were on scene and coming around the back of the house.

'They were ready," Cheryl said of the fire crews. "They were right there. They were wonderful. I have nothing to say but good things about them."

Twelve crews responded to the fire, including Sedgwick County stations No. 32 in Park City and No. 37 in Bel Aire.

Although the response time was impressive, high winds and the intensity of the fire forced crews to fight the blaze defensively, from outside the house. The home was destroyed with a damage estimate at

about \$250,000 — \$170,000 to the structure and \$80,000 in contents.

Crews were able to reach a bedroom nightstand through an opening of the side of the house and retrieve Cheryl's glasses. Beyond that, the McCallums don't know what can be salvaged.

The McCallums said investigators "are pretty positive" the blaze was caused by fireworks. They don't know who would have shot fireworks near their house.

"The wind was blowing so hard out of the southeast, I just don't know," Dennis said.

Three weeks after losing their home of 18 years, the couple is renting their way back on their feet. The McCallums have relocated to a furnished apartment at LaCrosse Apartments near 37th North and Woodlawn.

Besides Dennis and Cheryl, Ebony is living in the apartment. The day after the fire, the cat was found alive in the basement of the destroyed home.

Dennis said investigators were in the basement with flashlights that couldn't shine more than three feet in front of them.

'The soot and smoke that was down there just absorbed that light," Dennis said. "I've never seen anything like it and never want to see it again."

An investigator hollered for Dennis after catching a glimpse of Ebony. Dennis assumed they found the cat's dead body. "No, it's alive," Dennis

remembers the investigator saying. "And we can't catch it." Dennis went downstairs

and was able to retrieve Ebony, who'd managed to stay above the eight to 12 inches of standing water.

The McCallums said they're taking the recovery process day by day and minute by minute as they try to sort out their lives after losing their home. They've spent much of their time working with their insurance adjuster.

Dennis and Chervl say they'd ultimately like to build a new house on the same lot of their previous home on Hill-

"We like the lot, we like the community," Cheryl said. "I feel very strongly about staying there and rebuilding.'

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